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The Turban Head half dollars and background history will be one of the subjects discussed in the May issue.

5th REMEMBER - the of May is the deadline for the June issue of TNA NEWS

OFFICIAL MEMORANDUM

BY

DOLPH BRISCOE, JR.

GOVERNOR OF TEXAS

AUSTIN, TEXAS

GREETINGS:

Coins and currency form a universal part of the lives of all people.

The American Numismatic Association, a non-profit organization founded in 1891 and chartered by a special act of Congress of 1912, is observing the week of April 15-21, 1973, as National Coin Week.

The members of this and kindred associations encourage and promote educational and fraternal relations and foster the interest of young and old in a subject that is entertaining and instructive as well as valuable in encouraging thrift.

THEREFORE, I, as Governor of Texas, do hereby designate the week of April 15-21, 1973 as . . .

Coin Week In Texas

and urge all citizens to visit the exhibits sponsored by the American Numismatic Association and other groups during this period.

In official recognition whereof, I hereby affix my signature this 24th day of January, 1973.

(S) Dolph Briscoe, Jr.

Governor of Texas

(Official Seal in Gold)

LYMAN BARTEE

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

We have been to the 1973 TNA convention in Fort Worth, it's over and it was great! We heard about our past accomplishments and we heard about our future goals. We have promised ourselves and our friends that we would do even more. Now that we are all back home, please let's not get back in the same old pattern of things—namely—"Let good old Joe do it; he has time and he likes to be involved in things." How about changing this and each of us find the time and get involved ourselves. A REAL MUST FOR TNA is to get new members. We were not as alert last year as we should have been. TNA has the potential to be a great organization—not just a good one. By June 1, let's try to have at least 50 new applications pending. Show these prospective members the TNA NEWS. The March issue alone should sell the idea to those interested.

✧

A REMINDER! Please don't forget to order your copies of the TNA NEWS for you to pass out at your coin shows and provide tables for TNA and ANA representatives.

✧

As you well know, we have had a mailing problem with the TNA NEWS. It is placed in the post office in Brownwood, our publishing home, early in the month. It has been reported repeatedly that it is taking up to one full month to reach its destination. Our publisher, Clark Coursey, our TNA NEWS editor and I have been exploring ways to speed up the delivery and investigating the bottle-necks. It was reported that it took only 10 days to reach Wyoming, but 30 days to the Rio Grande Valley, only 450 miles away! The March issue was mailed from Brownwood on March 2. Please write the editor and let her know when you received your copy. We would like to have a response from every section of Texas so we may continue our investigation. Please cooperate so we may put an end to this slow delivery.

✧ ✧ ✧

TNA MEMBERSHIP STANDING

(As of March 1, 1973)

Paid Members — 700	Resignations — 2
Chapter Members — 49	Deceased — 1

MODERN OLYMPIC COINS

Triumph & Tragedy

BY: VICTOR S. BUTTS
Beaumont, Texas

Many people, over the years, have become acquainted with an event that transpires every four years known as the Olympics. This acquaintance has come about largely through interest displayed in the various sporting events that take place in the Olympic games, representing a "harmony of nations" so to speak. If you stop any sports enthusiast and ask him who won the most Olympic gold medals, more than likely he will answer—"Mark Spitz of the United States in 1972." However, if you stop and ask the same sports enthusiast—"How many coins are collectable in the modern Olympic series?"—he would more than likely shrug his shoulders and walk off. The answer to this last question, at present, is 35.

In order to know something of the present Olympics, we have to look to the past. The Olympic games were first held in Greece in the year 776 B.C. and were dedicated to Zeus, the mythological "supreme god" of Mount Olympus. From this period of time until the 4th century A.D., the Olympics were the greatest festivals in the civilized world. At first, the games were confined to running events, but as time progressed, the games expanded to include other types of sporting events.

Many of the city-states participated in this Olympiad, which was held every four years, and it was a time of merriment and gaiety. Oftentimes, war was in evidence in the land, but participants in the games would be given "safe conduct" through the lines in order that they might take a part in the games (a philosophy that until 1972 would remain in effect.) Among the Greeks, the Olympic games are a matter of honor in the various communities; sometimes the Olympic victories would overshadow victories in war.

The Olympic games were discontinued in the 4th century A.D. and this remained the case until 1896. In that year, a number of interested sportsmen revived the Olympic games in the city of Athens, in the original stadium that was rebuilt for that purpose. The modern Olympic games have been in existence since that time and have occurred every four years except for the war years of 1916, 1940 and 1944. Prior to 1924 the only types of sporting activities that were held were events that took place in the Summer months; however, in that year the first Winter Olympics were held. The most recent Winter Olympic games were held in a beautiful display of nationalism in Sappero, Japan.

The most recent Summer games were held in Munich, West Germany from August 26-September 10, 1972. A great deal of preparation went into these games and it was supposed to be an event, at least for the Germans, which would finally show the world that West Germany had returned to civilization from the barbaric years of the 1940's. They spared no expense in financing the games, for it was to be a symbolism of their nationalistic pride. Then on September 5, 1972 headlines erupted — "Violence Disrupts Olympic Games" — and the blackest day in the 3000

year history of the Olympics unfolded. On that day, 11 Israeli athletes were brutally and needlessly killed at a place far removed from the Arab-Israeli War, which was and is at this moment going on. The athletes were killed by a group of fanatics who chose this particular moment and event to express their insane hatred for everything that is decent in life: a moment that until this particular day had been a symbol of the one moment in time when men could exist in peace and harmony with his fellow man. Now, that peace and harmony has been disrupted: perhaps even destroyed forever.

As stated before, there are 35 coins in the modern Olympic series. These coins were struck to commemorate the Olympic games that were held within the borders of the country. Except for the coins of Fujairah and the Republic of Guinea, each coin was also struck for circulation purposes. In some cases, the coins were struck in order to raise money for the host country (as in the case of West Germany, where more than one third of the cost was offset through sale of the coins) so that it could construct many fabulous arenas for the athletes to compete in. In this way, great sporting events could be held upon conclusion of the games.

1968 OLYMPIC COIN — The 25-peso coin was issued in 1968 during the Olympic games held in Mexico City. It is of silver and is equal to $2.00 in United States money. There are three types of this commemorative coin which are described by the author in his article.

The first Olympic games that we become concerned with numismatically are the games of 1952, for this is when the first modern Olympic coin was struck. To be more precise, the first modern coin was actually struck in 1951 for the games that were being held in Helsinki, Finland. This 1951 issue was to commemorate the 1952 games and it is in this issue that we find the searcest issue of the series with only 18,500 minted. The following year Finland issued the same coin with the date 1952, of which 586,500 were minted. The 1951 issue now retails for approximately $200, if you can find one in uncirculated condition; while the 1952 retails for $35-40. Both coins were poorly struck and this must be taken into consideration.

The Finland Olympic coin was first scheduled for production in 1940 for the games that were to be held in Finland in that year; however, the games were cancelled at that time due to the beginning of World War II. As a result, the event did not take place until 1952 when the games were held in the city of Helsinki. The inscription on the obverse signifies the 15th Olympiad being held in Helsinki, coupled with the five intertwining and symbolic rings that represent the continents of the world. The reverse bears the denomination (500 Markkaa), a wreath and the words "Suomi Finland." The coin is 32mm and made of silver.

A lapse of some 12 years took place before the striking of the next Olympic coin or actually coins. In 1964, the country of Austria was host to the Winter Olympics and rose to the occasion by striking a coin that depicted an Olympic skier as

well as the five intertwining rings. On the reverse is shown a series of coats of arms and the denomination, which is 50 Schillings. Approximately 2.9 million were issued in uncirculated condition and 116,219 in proof condition. These coins were struck to commemorate the games that were held in Innsbruck, Austria. The size of the coin is 33mm and the metal content is silver.

Japan also joined the ranks of Olympic coin-issuing countries in 1964 with the issuance of two coins. The first coin to be issued from Japan was the 100 Yen which shows the five entertwining rings coupled with the Eternal Flame, another symbol of the Olympics; the reverse shows the denomination. At the same time, the Japanese also issued a beautiful 1,000 Yen, the obverse of which is a scene of Mt. Fuji (a national symbol.) On the reverse there is an illustration of the five intertwining rings and the denomination. The 1,000 Yen coin is 35 mm and the basic metal content is silver, while the 100 Yen is composed of cupro-nickel. Approximately 90 million were minted in the 100-Yen denomination, while the 1,000 Yen only had a 15-million mintage. both coins were struck to commemorate the Tokyo Olympics

In 1968, the country of Mexico added its contribution to the Olympic series in the first Olympic coin that was to have varieties in the dies. The Type I in the original as it was designed, depicting an Aztec Indian, the five intertwining rings, and the announcement of the 19th (Summer) Olympiad being held in Mexico. The distinction in the Type II is found in the intertwining rings, where the middle link in the upper chain of three has been dropped below the level of the other two links. The Type III has the same "dropped link" but on the reverse will be found the snake (a national symbol on Mexican coinage) with a curved tongue rather than a straight tongue as is found in the other two varieties. The edge of the coin is lettered with the words "Independence and Liberty." There were 27,181,500 of the coins minted, their size is 38mm and the basic metal content is silver. They were struck to commemorate the games that were held in Mexico City. The denomination is 25 Pesos or about $2 in United States face value.

Then in 1969 we see the first non-host country try to exploit the Olympic coin market with issues that were only minted in proof condition. The Emirate of Fujairah issued 6,500 coins to commemorate the 1972 games in Munich, West Germany in the form of 5 Riyals. These coins were made in silver, had the five intertwining rings, the Eternal Flame and the words "Munchen 1972." These coins were minted at the Lombardo Mint and were non-circulating. At the same time, Fujairah also issued a 50 Riyals coin in gold with the same obverse and reverse, except for the denomination. There were approximately 5,000 of these gold coins issued.

Another country that jumped on the "Olympic Coin Bandwagon" in 1969 was the Republic of Guinea. This country issued a non-circulating coin of the 500-Franc denomination which was struck only in proofs. It is composed of silver, is 42mm in size, and was struck in Paris. Enclosed in the five intertwining rings of the obverse are various scenes representing the last five Summer Olympic games and the words "Olympia Munich-1972" around the Eternal Flame. The reverse shows the denomination. The Republic of Guinea also struck 4,000 gold coins with a similar obverse and reverse except that the denomination was 5,000

Francs.

Beginning in 1969, the West Germans joined the ranks of Olympic coin-issuing countries when, by far, they undertake the most ambitious Olympic series to date. Originally, there were to be 16 different coins to commemorate the event in a series of four coins per issue (one for each mint) for four issues. At times there was speculation that the last coin in the series would be struck in gold, but the recent surge in the price of gold terminated this line of thinking.

FIRST ISSUE

The Germans had originally intended to strike only 1.5 million coins from each mint in the first issue; however, after release it was discovered that the coins were being hoarded. In order to alleviate this problem, an additional one million coins were ordered to be struck at each mint. Therefore the total 1969 issue was 10 million coins—2.5 million from each mint.

After the first issue was released it was also discovered that the East Germans were confiscating as many of the coins as they could. The reason for this move by the East German government was the inscription on the coin which stated that the Olympic games were being held "In Deutschland" which means "In Germany." The East Germans felt that the coin should read "In Muchen" which means that the games were being held "In Munich." Further, it was felt that this inscription would coincide with Olympic standards which state that cities host the games, not nations. Therefore, after the error was discovered on the coin it was decided that later issues would bear the inscription "In Munchen." So, as a result of these movements we have the first issue with two varieties—10 million in each variety.

Due to the complications that occurred with the first issue; it was now decided by the Germans that each subsequent issue would have a mintage of 20 million, with 5 million coming from each mint (the mints being Munich—D, Stuttgart—F, Karlsruhe—G, and Hamburg—J.) The size of the coin would continue to be 32.5mm in each series and would have a metal content of silver.

One point to make note of is the fact that the West German issues are the first modern Olympic coins that have not had the five intertwining rings, so symbolic of the Olympics. Olympic origin is signified on the obverse of the first series in the form of an Olympic Spiral, the words indicating that the games will be held in Germany, and the referral to the 20th Olympiad. Olympic orisin can also be seen in the lettered edge of this and subsequent issues with the words "Citius, Altius, Fertius" which are Olympic in nature meaning "Swifter, Higher, Stronger."

SECOND ISSUE

The obverse of the second issue bears a modernistic Olympic design in the form of Olympic chains, the changing of the inscription to read "In Munchen" and the words that indicate the 20th Olympiad. Also in contrast to the first issue the eagle on the reverse, which is a traditional symbol of German coinage, is different in form. In addition, the mintmark is under the left claw on the reverse, whereas it was under the right claw in the first issue. This issue was supposed to be released in 1970, but did not make an appearance until 1971.

THIRD ISSUE

This issue gets somewhat away from the ordinary in that it is the first Olympic issue to depict any human forms. A male and female youth are depicted on the obverse

and exemplify the youth who compete in the Olympics in the various events. As in other issues, the Olympics are denoted through the various inscriptions mentioned previously.

FOURTH ISSUE

This issue depicts an aerial view of the Olympic site in Munich. On the obverse are the words "Olympishe/Spiele/Munchen/26.8 - 10.9/1972" which means "The Olympic games in Munich from August 26-September 10, 1972." The reverse illustrates the traditional eagle in a different position from the previous issues.

FIFTH ISSUE—Second Motif of First Issue

This is a reissuance of the first coin, the only difference being in the indication that the games will be held "In Munchen" rather than "In Deutschland." Total mintage was 10 million.

SIXTH ISSUE

The sixth issue conforms to the earlier issues of other countries in that the five intertwining rings are depicted, in conjunction with the Eternal Flame and the Olympic Spiral. These Olympic coins were released at the time of the games.

Until November 7, 1972 the Winter games of 1976 were scheduled to be held in Denver, Colorado; however, on that date the voters of Colorado turned down sponsorship of the event as being detrimental to the environment and to their taxes. Since that time the United States Olympic committee has chosen Salt Lake City, Utah for the event. This move will evidently be subject to the approval of the voters of Utah, approval of the U.S. government and the approval of the International Olympic committee.

The purpose of this article is to emphasize the point that the U.S. would be the ideal place to hold the event in 1976. It would be a time when we would be celebrating our 200th aanivesary of Independence. Hopefully, we would be out of our involvement in the Viet Nam War and what better way could there be to reaffirm our belief in peace than to do so by sponsoring an event where all nations are in harmony in one place. In addition, the U.S. has commemorated the Olympics in previous Olympic years through stamp issues, but has yet to issue a commemorative coin for the event. You could aid this cause by writing to the President, your Congressman, coin publications and other influential media.

At present, I am conducting a one-man campaign for a coin to commemorate the event. At the time of writing, I have approximately 200 signatures on petitions, which I have placed at coin shows throughout the State of Texas and the State of Louisiana. If you would like to aid in this endeavor, you might write up a similar petition and present it to your coin club. Then either submit the petition to the proper authority in Congress or send it to me: Victor S. Butts, Box 10030, Lamar University Station, Beaumont, Texas 77710.

1922 Plain?

It is well known that in 1922 all one cent pieces were struck at the Denver mint with the mint mark D. The "Plain" refers to certain coins not showing the D. This is the result of a die becoming clogged with dirt or other matter. We can consider that a 1922 Plain cent is a defective coin, the result of poor workmanship and control. Nevertheless, it is a recognized variety.

The Earliest Anno Domini Dated Coins

BY: DAVE R. CERVIN,
Amarillo, Texas

Winner of the HOWLAND WOOD MEMORIAL GRAND AWARD
at the ANA convention in Washington, D.C., 1971

CHARLES THE BOLD (1467-1477)

Dave Cervin

Charles the Bold's (Charles le Temeraire) biggest bid to immortality is that he was the son of Philip the Good. And who was Philip the Good? Well, Philip sold Joan of Arc to the English for 10,000 gold florins. Why this dastardly act would qualify him for the appelation of "the Good" is hard to understand. Maybe fate took a hand in justifiable retribution because for the last years of his life he was an imbecile. Son Charles became the guiding power behind the throne.

When Philip finally died in 1467 Charles assumed the Dukedom of Burgundy. Charles was ambitious, unfortunately beyond his own capabilities. However, substantial early successes built his ego to the point where he envisioned a royal title. In 1473 he thought he had convinced Frederick III, Emperor of the Holy Roman Empire, to grant him such a title. But Frederick reneged at the last moment. This precipitated the loss o some allies, notably England, and successive reverses of previous victories. In October, 1476, he lost Nancy, probably the crowning blow. And on January 5, 1477, he lost his life to Louis XI in a battle fought outside of Nancy.

We may find it easy to forget the up-and-down life of Charles the Bold, but we can hardly forget his numismatic accomplishments. He was truly a first in more respects than one. According to Carson (Coins: Ancient, Mediaeval, and Modern), the date 1474 on the Brabant, Flanders, or Guelders double briquet is the earliest instance of a date in numerals in the Netherlands coinage. Gelder-Hoc

Key to Boldface letters and numbers

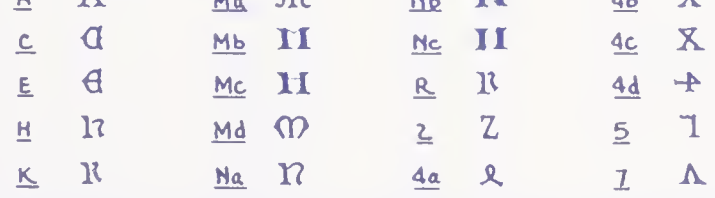


FIGURE 2 — Where the text has Boldface letters or numbers, the mediaeval equivalent may be found from this tabulation. It will be repeated with each future article.

verities 1474 as the start of dating by Charles. Frey, however, identifies this same coin as first being struck in 1472. Based on Gelder-Hoc's tremendous study, Frey could be in error.

This is truly a handsome coin, as shown by **Figure 5**. The obverse shows a quartered shield of arms featuring the fleur-de-lis of Burgundy, and the arms of Brabant, Flanders, Guelders, Zeeland and Limburg. Charles modestly claims his dukeship over these principalities on the reverse, and better spelled out on **Figure 5**, which show and translate the legends. The denomination is a double briquet. It was struck for Brabant.

The legend on the obverse, "The people pay homage to their Lord," is original with Charles' issue and was the forerunner of many other similar religious sentiments to be expressed on coins. Because of its length, the Latin abbreviations make translating not too easy. However the Latin expansion shown within parenthesis on **Figure 5** simplifies the translation.

From our study of mediaeval numbers we encounter no difficulty in reading the date, 1475. Note, however, the cap topping the 4. Charles was the first to show the 4 in this manner (4b), and the year 1475 is the first time it was used. Most of Charles' later issuances also have the capped 4, though, curiously, no ruler other than his own heirs (daughter Marie, and grandson Philip) followed his lead, and even they were far from 100 per cent in his interesting innovation. As a matter of fact Philip occasionally used 4a. for 4, as we shall later see.

If there is one feature that may be found on all mediaeval coins, it is the cross. There is usually a cross on each side, and sometimes more than one on a single side. Oftentimes the cross is highly ornament-

BRABANT 1475 DOUBLE BRIQUET

Obv: ✠ SALVV : FAC : PPLM : TW : DNE : A : ISAS

(Salvum fac populum tuum domini)

The people pay homage to their Lord, Year 1475

(Ps. [illegible])

Rev: ✠ KAROL : DEI : GRA : DX : BG : BRA : Z : LI [illegible]

Charles, [illegible]

Zeeland, Limburg [illegible]

([illegible])

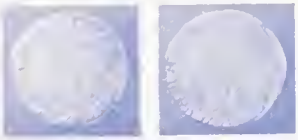
FIGURE 5 — Charles the Bold, 1475, Double Briquet, Brabant. Note the capped 4, or 4b at ten o'clock on obverse. This was the first year of the capped 4, and was later extensively used by Charles' daughter, Marie, and grandson, Philip.

ed or floriated. This is the case of Charles' coin here as a shield is superimposed on a cross with floriated ends.

On the reverse are a pair of lions sejant with a crown between and above; observe the small cross at 12 o'clock which starts the legend. This is quite typical on mediaeval coins.

Figure 6 is similar to **Figure 5** except that it is dated 1474, the first year of issuance of Charles' dated coins. However, a close inspection offers us a fascinating insight of liberties taken by fifteenth century engravers. The date reads: 1 4c and 4 topped by 7—unusual and difficult to show in this article. This is not a typographical error. The last two numbers (74c) are placed almost on top of each other. This may be better seen by observing the legend on **Figure 6**. What apparently happened is that the engraver failed to plan ahead very carefully and he just didn't have enough room for the date at the end of the legend. (Dates invariably wind up at eleven o'clock.) He did not wish to redo his work so he solved his problem by not only placing the numbers close to one another, but at the very end he placed the last two numbers nearly on top of each other! Even though engravers of the 15th century were privileged to take liberties, there appear to be no other instances of such unusual treatment of numbers.

Let us momentarily examine a modern day freak coin. Recently, a large number of cents came up with a double stamping of "In God We Trust." It is so inconspicious that many people require a magnifying glass to adequately see this error. How much are these coins worth? Supposedly $75.00, plus or minus, and 20,000 or so exist. How many coins of Charles the Bold remain that have this interesting 7 overlapping with a 4? No one knows, but a couple of dozen or so might be a fair estimate. How much are each worth? Well if 20,000 cents are worth $75.00 each, these little numismatic gems of Charles ought to be worth a small fortune apiece! Or maybe this is just the prejudiced opinion of a dyed-



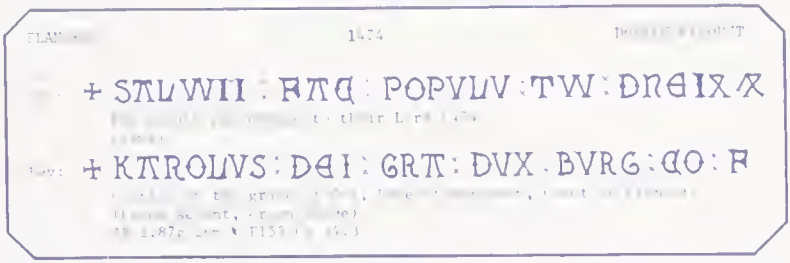
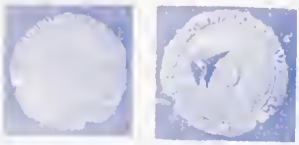


FIGURE 6 — Charles the Bold, 1474, Double Briquet, Flanders. This was the first year of dated coins issued by the Netherlands. At eleven o'clock note how the 7 and 4c are stacked on each other. Also the two 4's are uncapped.

in-the-wool mediaeval numismatist.

Both of the coins we have examined are double briquets. Now let us look at a briquet as shown by **Figure 7**. As a starter note that it is a couple of millimeters larger, weighs about the same, both are silver, and neither say briquet or double briquet. Then how can we tell them apart? Be patient, the solution will quickly unfold

Figure 7 shows a highly floriated cross, but without a superimposed shield, on the obverse, and the legend BENEDIC HEREDITATI TVE —Bless his ancestors. The reverse legend refers to Charles as Duke of Burgundy (spelled BORG instead of



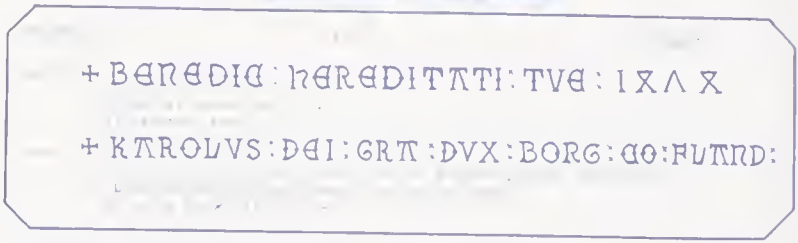
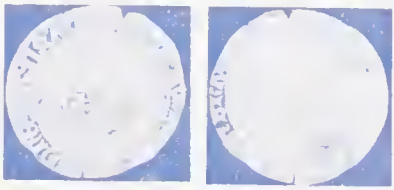


FIGURE 7 — Charles the Bold, 1474, Briquet, Flanders. Again, this is the first issuance of Netherlands' dated coinage.



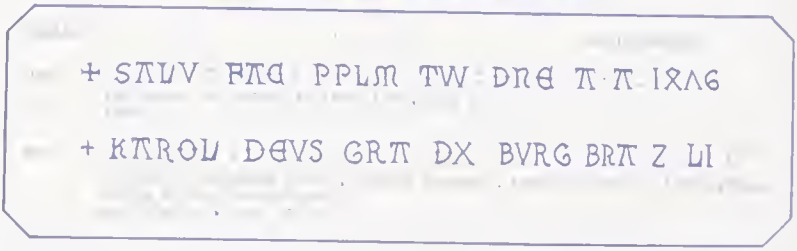


FIGURE 8 — Charles the Bold, 1476, Double Briquet, Brabant. The date is easily read on the obverse, and this year is moderately rare. At eleven o'clock on reverse note the interesting impression of a hand found on all Brabant coins.

the usual BVRG), Count of Flanders. The latter tells us that it was struck for Flanders.

Probably the hardest letters to read on both coins are F which appears more like an H, and L which looks a bit like a U. Intense use of ceriphe is the cause of this.

The reverse shows a lion sejant (and a handsome figure he is) holding a quartered shield of arms. This is the secret to the size of the denomination. One lion means briquet, two lions means double briquet. A second point of differentiation is the change in the legend on the obverse. These two legends were never interfixed.

Relatively speaking, dated coins of Charles the Bold are not rare. But remember, all dated coins prior to 1500 have a modest degree of rarity. However, the 1476 **Figure 8**, appears to be quite rare. It is the only one of this date that the writer was fortunate enough to find over an intense two-year hunt. Look carefully, preferably with a magnifying glass, at eleven o'clock on the reverse, and you will see a hand. It is the mint mark for all coins issued for Brabant, whether single or double briquets, and its use was continued by daughter Marie. This hand is very imperfectly seen on **Figure 5**, though it was not called to the reader's attention because of this imperfection. On a modern coin (post 1600) such a defect might make it inadvisable to display. However, Gelder-Hoe, the most authoritative writer of this period, illustrate this coin several times and in every instance the hand is not distinguishable. So if you are a numismatic perfectionist, stay away from pre-1500 coins.

Preceding the date of 1476 may be seen: AA. Why the pair of A's? Well, the space was there and the engraver wished to fill it. Normally AN may be found (abbreviation for ANO), but the engraver of this coin chose the two A's possibly because he was illiterate and didn't know any better.

Observe that coins struck for Brabant have words separated by two circles. However, coins struck for Flanders show word separations by a pair of x's. Gueldres also struck coins for Charles and their word separations are shown by two stars.

No illustrations of a Gueldres coin is shown simply because the writer has never been able to find one. This is explainable because 20 times as many coins were struck for Brabant and Flanders as for Gueldres.

It is evident that much rhyme and reason may be found in studying and cataloging the early dated coinage of the Netherlands. On the other hand there are so many variants that variants are almost the rule and not the exception. Clearly the study of early dated coins is neither routine nor dull.

When you are looking for people of accomplishment in numismatics (though not necessarily was it their intention for numismatic achievement), don't overlook the name of Charles the Bold.

NEXT MONTH: Austria is the Greatest Country in the Universe. If you think you live in a great country, then read what Frederick III thought about his native Austria during the 15th century.

ENCASED STAMPS

During the Civil War small money was so scarce that people used postage stamps as change. Someone conceived the idea of placing them in a metal frame with their name on the back for advertisement and also to protect the stamp for longer use. Many varieties are known and the stamps used range from 1 cent to 90 cents.

TOPICAL COLLECTING

BY: W. B. (BILL) SLATE
Rock Springs, Wyo.
Noted World Coin Collector, Exhibitor & Author

OUTLINE TO TOPICAL COLLECTING AND EXHIBITING

Collecting world coins by topical themes is on the increase because in specific areas a collector can dictate his special goals and therefore gain completeness. Two variations to the topical theme are collecting by birth year or a special year and specific countries by type. In the birth year collection the only common item is the specific date with the rare dates having to be included for completeness while in type collecting, the common item is the country. I like to think of topical collecting as collecting better grade world coins of the realm of many countries with many dates but having a common theme, design, size of metal.

Most of the topical exhibits that are appearing presently only go back as far as the 1840's or 1850's, more specifically the coins found in Yeoman. This column also follows these dates and goes to the present omitting specifics on the JUNK CONCOCTIONS that are labeled as "NON-CIRCULATING LEGAL TENDER" (NCLT) or "LEGAL BY DECREE." The collector is king and he collects what he wants, but must he make excuses to perpetuate the increase of the JUNK NCLT issues by calling them coins? It is interesting to note that the two major world coin catalogues, Yeoman and Krause/Mishler, both eliminate the JUNK ISSUES in the regular world coin listings and then list them separately as CONTROVERSIAL ISSUES or NCLT.

W. B. (Bill) SLATE

Some of the most common topical exhibits have been on the themes of birds, animals, Olympics, rulers and ships. With the theme of birds there has been a major separation into collecting just eagles on coins. One of the best exhibits on rulers I have seen is a separation of this theme into the type collection of Victorian coinage.

While exhibiting, I have become acutely aware of strict judging rules and interpretation in the category of completeness, completeness that is in relation to the title. For the topical collector, this bottleneck in completeness can be circumnavigated by using a very specific title that ties the exhibit down. The title of "Ships On Coins" will most likely be judged incomplete because it implies that you have all the coins that show a ship design. The following ship coins are some of the rare-

st and are lacking in many topical ship collections; Austria Y3 2-Vereinsthaler 1857, Brazil Y10 2000-Reis 1900, Germany Y54 5-Mark 1927 Bremerhaven and Israel Y35 5-Pound 1963 Seafaring. Circumnavigating here is very easy by changing the title to something like "20 Ships on Coins." This numerical addition to a title with the correct number of coins represented can make a difference of five points on your score but watch out for the same trick when applying it to "Birds On Coins" or "99 Birds On Coins." With the birds, do you really have 99 DIFFERENT birds or do you have "99 Coins With Bird Designs?" The example here is with the many eagle designs that appear on United States coins but you still only have ONE bird and that is the eagle. I personally think that putting a limiter such as a number or the words "Some" or "My Favorite" or "A Selection of" in a title degrades the exhibit but by strict rules this must be done to fulfill the completeness

In researching topical themes I have found many different themes which could be completed by type without much difficulty. The more I look, the more topical themes I come up with. Following is a list of some of the many topical themes that are available in world coins:

Animals
Athletics
Aviation
Beards
Birds
Blacksmiths
Bridges
Buildings
Churches
Coats of Arms
Conjoined Busts
Columbus
Commemoratives
Counterstamps
Crosses
Crowns
Death and Ascession
Designers
Dragons
Eagles
Edges
Elephants
Explorers
Factories
FAO
Fish
Flags
Flowers
Fractions
Hands
Harps
Headgear
Holes
Horses
Indians
Inventors
Land Masses
Liberty
Metals
Madonna and Child

TOPICAL IDEAS — The above coins show some of the themes one could select from to assemble a topical collection. LAND MASS, Formosa, Y532, 5 Chio; MULTIPLE ANIMALS, Australia, Y34, 1 Florin 1954; BRIDGES, Hungary, Y78, 20 Forint 1956; MADONNA & CHILD, Bavaria, D611 Thaler.

Mountains
Multiple Animals
Multiple Faces
Musical Instruments
Musicians
Nautical Items
Obsolete Coinage
Olympics
Portraits or Busts
Railroads
Religious
Rider on Horseback
Rulers
Shapes
Shields
Ships
Sizes
Specific Rulers
Stars
Sunfaces
Symbolism
Transportation (Mechanical)
Trees
Values (Specific)
Water (Bodies of Water)
Weapons
Wheatstalks

As the above list shows, the topical collector has a wide choice of themes from which to build a collection. There are many themes that overlap and it is up to the individual to determine his own area.

Topical collecting is increasing and in years to come I feel that a topical association will be formed. At the present however, I feel that topical collecting needs more nationwide exposure and one way to achieve this is to have an annual award for the BEST TOPICAL EXHIBIT. It is the AUTHOR'S hope that such an award can be set up at the annual ANA convention. Before this can become a reality, there are two obstacles that must be overcome. The main one will be getting the approval of the ANA Board of Governors to allow such an award to be created. Readers can help toward this goal by writing to their governor in ANA. For those in Texas, the governor is Virgil Hancock, Box 936, Bellaire 77401. This approval will be difficult to obtain but with a specific endowment established, it would have a little help. The endowment is the second obstacle and the amount should be $1,000. An endowment of this amount would provide a working interest—bearing capital of between $50 and $60 per year for the award and engraving. Readers who are topical, collectors or those who would like to see such a hope become a reality, are requested to send donations or pledges to me: W. B. Slate, 1244 Kimberly Circle #C, Rock Springs, Wyo. 82901. The next ANA Board meeting will take place at the Boston convention in August 1973. All donations will be held in a special account until the 1974 convention is held: or disapproval of

TOPICAL SUBJECTS — Collectors may select any number of subjects to build a topical theme for an exhibit. Some of the ideas are included in the above. RULERS, Straits Settlements, Y25, dollar 1907; STAR, Russia, Y84, Rouble 1921; SUNFACE, Uruguay, Y3, 40c 1844; and OLYMPICS, Austria, Y111, 50 Schilling.

the idea is announced at which time the donations will be returned

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EDITOR'S NOTE: The following was inadvertently omitted from the article "LAND MASSES" which appeared in the January issue of the TNA NEWS. We regret this error and apologize to the author, Bill Slate, and include it in this issue for those wishing to retain these articles for future reference.)

The other islands on coins are on the Bermuda 1959 crown, New Zealand 1969 dollar, Jamaica 1972 10-dollar crown and the Formosa minor coinage of 1949 and 1950.

The smallest category is individual states and the only examples the author can find are on the U.S. commemorative half dollar series. The 1936 Spanish Trail half shows Florida, Alabama, Mississippi, Louisiana and THE GREAT STATE OF TEXAS. Another possible example in this category could be the 1936 Cleveland/Great Lakes commemorative. While it is true that the Washington-Carver half shows the outline of the states, they are all enclosed into the country.

Two other countries are also represented in a more unusual design. The country of Panama is seen in the middle of the shield of Panama while Cuba is represented only in symbolism as a key on the Cuba 1953 peso.

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NUMISMATIC ERRORS

— A NEW FIELD —

Researched, Discussed & Presented
By: L. G. Davenport,
Edinburg, Texas

OFF-CENTER STRUCK

L. G. Davenport

"Off-center struck coins are 'striking' errors." That remark can be taken two ways since the striking of a coin is where the error occurred, and it is an eye-catching one. They are classed as a major type and are very popular among mint-error collectors. Off-center struck coins emerge from our mints in a number of varieties with various effects, but for the time being, we will be concerned with only one of them: the single struck-single planchet-single set-of-dies variety. This is the most common of all the off-center struck varieties.

Coins struck off-center have been around as long as coins have been struck without the benefit of a collar, so perfect alignment was difficult and off-center struck coinage was more or less the norm. As minting processes were improved, a collar was introduced and aided in two distinct ways. It not only holds the blank planchet centered between the obverse and reverse dies but acts as a die itself.

Striking a coin requires tons of pressure to move the metal and fill in the design of the dies. The law of physics applies here that has to do with that metal flow. It is that the metal will move in the path of least resistance. Without a retaining collar, there is nothing to prevent the metal from moving out from under the pressure of the dies. However, with the collar, the metal is contained within the desired diameter and a stronger strike is obtained. The collar die is also a means for reeding a coin. When the blank is struck, the pressure forces the metal into the reeding design of such a collar die.

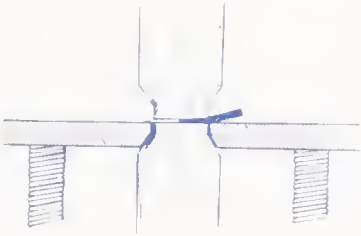
The retaining collar is a circular piece of steel with holes through it. These holes are fitted with circular steel dies with an inside diameter the same as the coin it will help produce. It is mounted on springs on a coinage press in a way so that the reverse dies of the press will work within these holes. The collar is positioned so that the surface of the reverse dies are below its surface (the collar) deep enough to completely contain a blank planchet in each hole. If the collar was not fastened solidly, a malfunction could cause considerable damage not only to the press but the die or dies as well. It should also be pointed out that today's coinage presses used for minting circulation coinage is either dual or quadro feed. Therefore, a collar will have either two or four holes that are called coinage chambers. The reverse dies are stationary except during the ejection part of the striking cycle when they raise up even with the surface of the collar allowing the feeder fingers to eject the struck coins. The obverse dies are the hammer dies and do

the actual striking. The feeder fingers take the blank planchets from the hopper and place them into the coinage chambers and retract, the obverse dies descend, striking those planchets and return to their upright position. The reverse dies lift the struck coin for ejection by the feeder fingers, and another cycle is started. All this is done at a very high rate of speed and must be perfectly synchronized.

A malfunction during this operation can cause several types of errors, including off-center struck coins. Malfunction of the feeder fingers or the collar sticking to the reverse die or dies are two reasons for off-center struck coins. Various things can cause a malfunction of the feeder fingers, but when it does happen, chances are very high that the blank will be misplaced. Of course, misplaced blanks are prime candidates for being struck off-center. The same is true with a malfunction of other parts of the ejection system. When the reverse die raises the struck coin up through the collar to be ejected, the collar and die can become clogged with some foreign material and be jammed or stuck together. When the reverse die lowers into its striking position it will pull the collar down with it since it is spring-mounted. This leaves the coinage chamber closed—unable to receive a blank properly. Under these circumstances placement of a blank is also uncontrolled and very often leads to off-center striking.

Any coin struck outside the coinage chamber is technically a broad-struck error. This includes off-center strikes. As someone so aptly put it —"All off-center struck coins are broad-struck but all broad-struck coins are not off-center struck." Some broad-struck coins are so spread out that they look off-center struck, but some of the design must be missing to be considered as such.

Off-center struck coins may be



DIE SET-UP—The sketch of the die set-up is not intended to be accurate in detail, size, etc. but is to show the collar and how the reverse die works within it. Since the blank planchet was misplaced outside the coinage chamber, the collar is pushed down with the blank as it is struck with the obverse die. The result is an off-center struck coin similar to the one in the photo.

OFF-STRUCK EXAMPLE—The above is an example of an off-center struck coin, struck at about 50% off and at 12 o'clock. It is a 1970S Lincoln cent on a Type II (turned-up rim) blank planchet.

found in any denomination with United States or foreign coinage, but naturally occur most frequently with higher minting simply because there is more opportunity for a malfunction. This lends itself to a variety of ways for making a collection of this type of error. As with regular coins they may be assembled by type, date and mint mark, etc. There are also a number of ways to assemble collections peculiar to this kind of error. The amount and position a coin is struck off-center, are factors to be considered along with the type of blank it was struck on.

Some collectors want uniform sets on either Type I blanks (without a turned-up edge) or Type II blanks (with a turned-up edge), but not a mixture of both. Positions are determined by clock designations. To do this one must turn the struck portion to a straight upright position. Once this is accomplished, the determination can be made by the location of the struck part in relationship to the unstruck part as on a clock dial. The last consideration is the amount the coin is struck off-center. This is done by measuring across the widest points on the struck part of the coin. If this distance is divided by the diameter of the normal coin, the percentage the coin is struck off-center may be determined. These three factors open up new avenues for assembling sets.

A very popular method is to make clocks and this can be done several ways. One is to assemble a clock with an off-center at each hour, regardless of the amount of off-center or the type of blanks they are struck on. Most collectors want a more uniform set and require each coin to be on the same kind of planchets (Type I or Type II) and the same amount off-center. A clock may vary with the collector's desires. Although most clocks are made up using one denomination only, this too is a matter of choice. Smaller or larger intervals, than an hour, may be the choice of a collector gathering coins for a clock.

Perhaps the most elaborate clocks assembled to date are sunbursts amassed by Don Wallace. He displayed two clocks at Error-A-Rama '71. One was made with off-center struck cents and the other with nickels. These clocks were arranged with a progression of off-center struck coins at each hour. At the center he began with an off-center, 5%, and at each hour of the clock, then progressed outward at 5% intervals ending with blank planchets. A total of 228 coins and 12 blanks were in each clock.

Another popular way to exhibit the oddities are in a "going, going, gone" series. This is a progression of coins as in the Wallace clocks, but preferably at the 9 o'clock position with the Lincoln cent watching the blank portion of the cent gradually move across the coin. Since the other busts face to the left, other denominations idealy use the 3 o'clock position. The position, however, is a matter of choice with the collector.

There are other ways that sets may be assembled and exhibited, including different varieties of this type of mint error. That, however, is another subject we will present at a later date.

Anyone who collects, or wants to begin collecting, this interesting and fascinating way is missing a great deal if they do not belong to a club that specializes in this area. I highly recommend the organization — Numismatic Error Collectors of America (NECA). For information write to Joe Bozada, Box 2531, Maplewood, La. 70663. (A SASE would be appreciated.)

THE COLONIAL MINTS OF LATIN AMERICA

BY: BRENT BROWN,
Waco, Texas
Author and Curator of Numismatics at Strecker Museum,
Baylor University

SANTO DOMINGO AND MANILA

Brent Brown

The colonial mint of Santo Domingo was one of the earliest Spanish American mints to open and the mint located at Manila was one of the last to close. Those two mints located on the Eastern and Western edges, respectively, of the Spanish American empire have a unique numismatic history which is frequently ignored.

The city of Santo Domingo is now located in the Dominican Republic. During the early years of Spanish control the Dominican Republic and Haiti formed the island of Hispaniola. On Hispaniola some precious metal was minted before the authorization of the official mint at Santo Domingo. A mint is believed to have been operating as early as 1502. This mint, located at Concepcion de la Vega, struck gold mined from the Cibao region into coins so that it could be more readily transferred to Spain. None of the pieces believed to have been coined at this mint have ever been located.

Copper four-maravedis pieces were the first coins minted at Santo Domingo. They may have been struck as early as 1505. These pieces carried a "F.Y. 4" on the obverse and the Pillars of Hercules and an "S" mint mark on the reverse. By the cedula of July 15, 1595 all existing quarter-real coins on Hispaniola were to be counterstamped with a key. This cedula also called for a change in design of the quarter-real piece. The new design was to have a castle and a lion but this issue was probably never minted at Santo Domingo.

The official silver coinage of Santo Domingo was authorized by the royal cedula of May 11, 1535, the edicts of Monzon of November 18, 1537, and the royal cedula of February 28, 1538. These decrees ordered the striking of eight, four, two, one and one-fourth real pieces, all of which were to bear the "S" mint mark. It has never been established if these coins were minted at Santo Domingo. The silver and gold coins which circulated in Santo Domingo while it was under Spanish control were probably struck at the Mexico City mint.

The Santo Domingo mint also issued a 10-real coin in 1542. This coin was struck by the assayer Francisco Rodriguez and is similar to early Mexican colonial issues. For more information on this interesting coin see the article by Ray Byrne on p. 44 of the March 7, 1973 issue of COIN WORLD.

The Philippine Islands became a Spanish possession in the early 1500's and until the independence of the

Americas they were under the jurisdiction of the Viceroy of Mexico. A "Manila Galleon" yearly made a trip from Mexico to Manila. This served as the only link between Spain and the Philippines. As in the case of Santo Domingo, many unofficial coins were struck before an official mint was opened. Before these crude unofficial coins were issued, Spanish coins served as the medium of exchange in the Philippines.

A series of minor copper coins were the first unofficial coins struck in the colonial Philippine Islands. The first of these was the barilla, a brass coin with the value of one centavo. It was first struck in 1728. The legend "Barilla, Ano de 1728" and the coat of arms of the city of Manila appears on the obverse of the barilla. The reverse of the coin was not struck. In 1766, a second issue of the barilla was struck. The obverse of the new barilla carried the legend "Cuidad D. Man. 1766" and the reverse displayed a sea lion with a sword

A series of octavos and quartos (Low-value copper coins) were minted in the Philippines from 1771 to 1835. They were crudely struck and many varieties are known. These pieces were manufactured by Chinese workers who had little technical skill and many of the coins contain such errors as inverted letters. The quartos were so poorly struck that the dates do not appear on them. A series of silver one-quarter real pieces was officially circulating in the Philippines in 1770. On December 19, 1769, six thousand pesos worth of these coins had been ordered from the mint in Mexico and these coins had been specifically struck for the Philippines. They had no mint mark or date.

During the 18th and 19th centuries, local craftsmen used native gold and silver to mint their own coins. These pieces were finely struck and followed the basic Spanish colonial design. The portrait of the current monarch on the coin was given a royal countenance but his clothing appeared more like the native ceremonial costumes.

An official Spanish mint did not open in the Philippines until the 19th century. Before this mint was opened, the primary coins of high value in circulation were minted in Mexico, the primary coins of high value in circulation were minted in Mexico, Peru and Bolivia. Until the official mint was opened most Filipinos accepted as legal money any current coin of the world.

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Anniversary Coins

To commemorate the nation's 200th anniversary, the Treasury Department wants to produce silver dollars and half dollars carrying "appropriate Revolutionary War designs."

The Treasury asked Congress to authorize the series. The designs would be placed on the reverse sides of the Eisenhower dollar and the Kennedy halves.

U.S. Mint Director Mary Brooks, who announced the plan, said the new coins would be placed in general circulation on July 4, 1975, a full year before the anniversary, if Congress gives its approval.

COIN WEEK IN TEXAS! April 15-21

MIRIAM GILMORE

THE UNCOMFORTABLE CHAIR

EDITOR

(ofttimes referred to as the 'hot seat')

It's been a long time but old timers will remember this column. Several years ago this space in the **TNA NEWS** was reserved for more important numismatic offerings than the editor could stir up.

I first must share a "little joke" with you—all News copy is set up on a linotype machine (we do not print offset—for those of you who have inquired.) The set type is placed in a long tray (galley) with a heading for identification. A "proof" is "pulled" and sent to the editor for reading. This column was always headed "The Hot Seat"—the linotype operator and I did not know each other but for years that was his way of offering his sympathy!

This edition marks a 10-year "stretch" for your editor. There have been trying times—good times—fun times—and I have served with many fine TNA officers since 1963. No editor—anywhere—could have the privilege of working with the most wonderful publisher and friend anyone could have and he is Clark Coursey of Banner Printing Co. in Brownwood. We are 450 miles apart but thanks to "Ma Bell" and the bicycle mail service (poor fellow, sometimes he has a flat tire to delay him) we have survived our ten years and (we think) issue a nice monthly publication for the association. We have had compliments, comments—complaints too—and have done our best to overcome the many problems we encounter.

Our **CLUB SALUTE** contest was a great success—we had 14 entries and each one was the BEST club in Texas. The entries reflected so much interest and enthusiasm and it was most rewarding to read them before being sent to the judges. I enclosed a note warning them they had a tough job ahead and when the winners were announced to me, they certainly agreed. I want to share the judge's comments (in part) with our entrants and readers—"To pick three winners from these clubs was like trying to pick the sweetest spoon of sugar from the same bowl. Each club that participated should be congratulated. Each of these clubs reflected the true spirit of Texas numismatics."

The judges deemed it necessary to extend the point of judging beyond the ten established in the contest and additional consideration was given for:

1. **What each club did to further and encourage numismatics.**
2. **Work done on a local level to increase the club membership.**
3. **Local civic projects that enhanced the club locally and/or statewide.**
4. **Programs designed to continue**

(Continued on page 46)

COMMENTARIUM.....

DEVOTED TO JUNIORS

BY: DAVE CERVIN,
Amarillo, Texas
ANA Young Numismatist
Representative For Texas

Last month we discussed the time-honored cliche, "The future of numismatics lies with its youth." The trouble with this cliche is that it has plenty of time behind it but historically it has not been sufficiently honored. Briefly, adults need to do more with juniors to insure the advancement of numismatics. Lip service just isn't adequate. To quote another cliche, what we need are "Deeds, not words." And it is the prime purpose of this column to make suggestions in this direction.

As a starter, let's talk about an innovation of the Amarillo Coin Club that looks like it will bear fruit. Understandably, juniors are restless during meetings. They are encouraged to participate but can the 10-to-15 year olds really enter wholesomely into the routine discussions that adults can be expected to engage in during business sessions? Experience shows they can't. Even programs are more entertaining in name than in reality. They are nearly always presented by adults and in adult language. They are geared to youthful level.

Ah! Here is the answer. Why not have programs brought by juniors? They will speak and understand one another's language. And adults will surely understand them also. Actually adults will be thrilled by listening to programs by juniors. They will get that tremendous satisfaction that comes only from directing and teaching young people to advance in knowledge.

Suggesting that juniors prepare and present programs is one thing but getting them to do it is another. Did you ever ask a 10-year-old to bring a program to 25 or 30 people? It's the sure way to experience that hopeless feeling. But there certainly can't be any law in bribing them, can there? This proved to be the answer; collect a number of coins and let the young numismatist take their choice after presenting a program. One other stipulation was added. The recipient must study his newly earned coin and bring a very short report concerning it at the next club meeting. By short is meant half a minute, more or less.

This was truly the solution. Over five consecutive months three juniors brought programs. And their ages were nine, ten and fourteen!

Now let us apply this statewide. As your ANA young numismatist representative for Texas, I propose to give a Roman coin to each junior who brings a program to the regular meeting of a coin club. A program is defined as the principal entertainment of a coin club meeting and there can be only one program at each meeting.

How do you get your coin? Merely write to me at 6201 Adirondack, Amarillo 79106 or to the editor of TNA NEWS who will forward me your letter. Include the topic you discussed, the date and approximate size of the audience. There is one other requirement—**YOU MUST BE A MEMBER OF TNA, SO BE SURE TO INCLUDE YOUR TNA NUMBER.** Dues are certainly low enough: one dollar a year, plus a dollar ad

(Continued on page 31)

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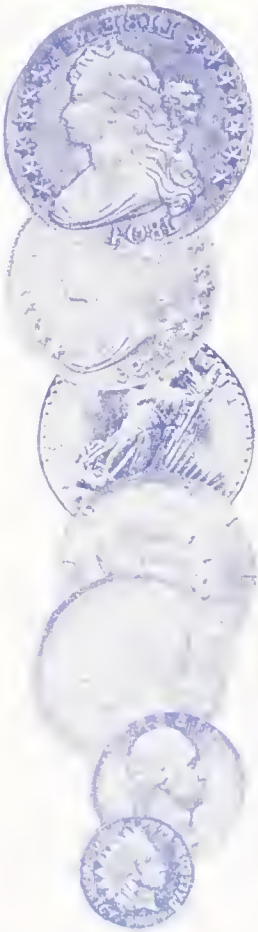
- ★ Foreign Crowns and Better Minors
- ★ Mexican Rarities



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THINK TWICE ON ORDERING

BY: BRAD MILLS,
Dallas Morning News

Brad Mills

Collectors and more casual hobbyists who are tempted to order "Brilliant Uncirculated" coins at bargain prices should think twice before sending money to advertisers who may be using assumed names or post office boxes as a cover-up for misleading merchandising schemes. In many cases these sellers have been delivering worn or circulated coins that have been processed to make them appear uncirculated.

Some time back this author commented on "whizzed" and polished coins that were attractive enough to fool inexperienced collectors. By using inferior coins worth perhaps half as much as the same coins in top condition, the defrauders in many cases are able to "restore" the worn coins to a condition good enough to find acceptance in various quarters. Actually, the processed coins may be rather striking, shiny, dull, polished or dyed in different attempts at restoration.

At least one dealer has been convicted in a United States District Court for deliberately polishing and treating worn coins, then selling them as uncirculated items. In the defendant's spree of deception, the court found that "he did in response to orders for 'BU' or brilliant uncirculated coins knowingly furnish coins of lesser value that had been treated in a manner which tended to make them appear to be 'BU' or brilliant uncirculated coins."

The convicted man operated over a long period by using assumed names and promising prompt refunds to purchasers who were dissatisfied with coins received. A favorite method of selling "bargain" coins is by use of post office boxes, but the practice in no way reflects on the post office department's integrity.

About 15 years ago, a virtual epidemic of polishing and coloring appeared in the Indian Head cent issue. Thousands of these popular little coins were doctored and sold as choice uncirculated when they were in reality worn. It was not unusual for slightly, or considerably, the dyes and chemicals to give way in the usual handling process.

The high polishing of ordinary uncirculated coins to make them appear as proof coins also ran a misleading course between 1950 and 1960. The bulling was cleverly done and the phony proof sets sold for several times their real value as ordinary issues. This practice has diminished greatly with the price decline of proof sets. An expert can easily detect proof coins that have been bufed.

The Courts have done much to protect coin collectors and other hobbyists. Rulings in the field of counterfeiting have discouraged the cheap artisans who even attempted to escape on technicalities by claiming the replicas were intended only as copies. As it now stands, the reproduced coins must be plainly marked as replicas or copies and sold as such. All purchasers of questionable items should have them au-

thenticated. Proper grading can be of importance, too.

✧

FAKE COINS

Are all the coins in your collection genuine? Did you buy an occasional rarity at a bargain? Are some of the gold pieces a bit on the yellow side? Or have you honestly been rather doubtful of certain coins that didn't look just right from some angles?

Chances are that all of your nice coins are the real McCoy in every respect, yet frauds of the past few years have left just about everybody vulnerable in some spots.

The recent conviction, by a federal grand jury in Dallas, of four accused counterfeiters brought to light the extensive ramifications of a ring of major offenders that is believed to have been responsible for making and selling a large number of fake coins in various parts of the country

Agents of the U.S. Secret Service stated that the whole defrauding scheme was so extensive that it could have touched hundreds of collectors and dealers in every populous area. The long string of offenses occurred over a period of five or six years, during which suspicious coins cropped up in varying quantities. In many cases the finger pointed toward a questionable bunch under surveillance. The Secret Service thinks it finally convicted the principal offenders.

The counterfeit coins were so deceptive that one large dealer stated that he had bought nearly $250,000 worth of the bogus output. Obviously, many of these had been resold to collectors everywhere as genuine items.

In some cases the fake coins contained base metals so close to that used in genuine coins that it is possible the offenders had melted down real coins to obtain their base material. In some cases, however, identification of the counterfeits stemmed from suspicion that mint marks were questionable.

Confiscation in Dallas a few years back of a large number of 1939D Jefferson nickels helped to spur a search for the counterfeiters of those coins. These nickels were so nearly perfect that a dealer displayed a whole roll of them in his sales case. But their color was just enough off from the genuine ones to arouse suspicion.

Some of the coins counterfeited or altered during the past 10 years are: Lincoln cents—1909SVDB, 1914D, 1922D, 1931S; nickels—1939D, 1950D; gold — Type I one dollar and $20 pieces; early Spanish milled dollars; and rare ancient coins.

Collectors who may find a few fake coins in their collections should not feel too bad about it. A famous Russian czar purchased any number of counterfeit coins in the belief he was obtaining the genuine items. After his death the phonies came to light, with the proof that he had personally directed acquisition of the fakes. They were superb copies!

Most coin dealers are honest, yet it is smart to buy carefully from the questionable itinerant who seems to be offering a big bargain

---

U.S. BANK NOTES

The United States issued no paper money until 1861. Prior to that time the paper money in circulation was issued by different banks which were chartered by the state. Records show that such notes were issued from a total of 35 different states. Some of the Western states never chartered their banks to issue paper money, and therefore notes were issued privately by mining companies, etc., to meet the demand for currency.

NEWS ROUNDUP – A.N.A.

By NORMA MATHER
Corpus Christi, Texas
A.N.A. Representative

Norma Mather

ANA is really alive and pressing forward as an organization to benefit the collector! It is gratifying to report that at its mid - February meeting in Colorado Springs the Board of Governors took a firm stand against the "whizzing" of coins (the moving or removing of metal to make the coin appear to be a higher grade than it really is) and in favor of steps to protect members, and others, against the practice. It makes offering for sale or trade a "whizzed" coin, without specifying that it has been whizzed, unethical conduct and grounds for expulsion from ANA! This is another in a series of "get tough on crooks" moves which have been taken in recent years for your protection and mine; another reason for being a member of ANA.

You have been encouraged, yes urged, through this column to use the American Numismatic Association Certification Service, another protection for the hobby.

A word of clarification is in order on what ANACS does **NOT** do. It does **NOT** identify numismatic items; it does **NOT** grade nor appraise; it does **NOT** examine paper money, tokens nor odd and curious media of any kind at the present time; it does **NOT** buy nor sell any numismatic material; it does **NOT** authenticate coins from photographs or rubbings, only the coins themselves; it does **NOT** describe characteristics of altered or counterfeit coins in detail because of time required and the likelihood of helping crooks improve their products! It does **NOT** make any comments about any dealers. As the name implies ANA Certification Service photographs the obverse and reverse of coins which are judged to be genuine, assigns a registration number and provides a certificate on each, beginning its "pedigree" and exposing questionable coins by refusing them certification.

ANACS is enlisting the services of a panel of scholars, experts in their respective fields, in order to provide the best possible judgment as to the authenticity of coins sent in. Most recently Raymond Hu, authority on modern Chinese coins, has been added to this panel. Use it!

✧

A Hobby Protection Act, similar to one that failed to get out of the House Interstate and Commerce committee in the last two sessions, was scheduled for a hearing before the committee on February 28. The bill would require that reproductions of collectible items be plainly marked **COPY** and show the year of manufacture.

Now is the time to write your representatives enlisting their efforts to get HR 3668 out of committee and onto the floor for action.

Plans are progressing for your observance of National Coin Week, April 15 to 21, I trust. No word as to the ANA board's action in this regard has come to me as yet. Do continue with your activities and then let Ed Rochette at ANA headquarters, Box 2366, Colorado Springs, Colo. 80901, know what you have done.

from the

first vice president

Texas Numismatic Association

Col. Charles A. Wingo
Rt. 2, Box 109
Denison, Texas 75020

First—a quick round-up of club visits in February. The Hunt County Coin Club in Greenville is busy preparing for their annual coin show the week-end following our TNA convention. Members of the Texomaland Coin and Stamp Club listened to one of their charter members tell of his collecting experiences in screening coins from his chain of washaterias. The Garland Coin Club had their annual party which had been postponed from December because of bad weather. Everyone enjoyed an evening of friendly conversation, good food and games. Members of the Dallas Coin Club viewed the film "History of the Carson City Mint" presented by GSA representatives.

The Paris Coin Club is really coming to life again! Sixty-eight collectors were present and a tremendous auction with plenty of spirited bidding was the highlight of the meeting. The board voted to renew their membership in TNA and are making plans for a coin show.

✧

What are you and your club doing to promote our hobby? Have you written to your congressman and/or senator to support the Hobby Protection Act? Are you making plans to display numismatic items and talk to civic organizations during National Coin Week, April 15-21? Don't be one of those people who only asks "What is TNA doing for me?" You'll feel better and get much more pleasure from your hobby if you're busy doing something for TNA because **you** and over 800 others are the TNA

Roger Earwood has done it again! The 1973 TNA medal is a beautiful addition to the TNA series. We are very fortunate to have someone so talented in this department If you don't get your medal at the convention, you'd better order one right away from Roger, and you'd be smart to order the whole bronze series.

COMMENTARIUM –

(Continued from page 26)

mission fee. **JUNIORS MAY APPLY FOR MEMBERSHIP AT THE SAME TIME THEY REQUEST THEIR ROMAN COIN.** There are no other rules or regulations and there is no limit to the number of coins any junior can earn.

What kind of Roman coins will be awarded? Well, frankly, very low-graded ones and usually small in size. They will, however, all be attributed. Even the junkiest of attributed Roman coins has a value of several dollars so they certainly are worth earning. But just don't look for anything good.

Now the average junior isn't sure just how to prepare a program. Next month we'll discuss this subject and offer suggestions.

from the secretary

Texas Numismatic Association

Mrs. Augusta Folda
420 Heritage Drive
Tyler, Texas 75701

Welcome to new members 2452-2465.

If approved the following will become members May 1, 1973.

2483 Tom McAfee, 2300-B Aloma Ave., Winter Park, Fla. 32780. U.S. Types Dealer Robert E. Slocum.

2484 (D-6) Mrs. Chester Francis, 1925 Foote, Wharton, Tex. 77488. General. Lyman C. Bartee, Mrs. D. M. Nichols.

A-2485 (D-6) Chester Francis, 1925 Foote, Wharton, Tex. 77488. General. Lyman C. Bartee, Mrs. D. M. Nicholn.

J-2486 (D-6) Colin Tuttle, Tokens and Foreign. Mrs. D. M. Nichols.

2487 (D-1) Winston W. Jobe, 2833 Putnam, Fort Worth, Tex. 76112. U.S. Everett Hull, Col. R. W. Darrah.

2488 (D-14) David W. Holland, 602 E. Filmore, Harlingen, Tex. 78550. General. Robert C. Dedmon.

2489 (D-11) Donald K. Riffe, Box 316, Stratford, Tex. 79084. U.S. Coins. Ernest Cummings.

2490 Vern Matheny, Box 1389, Sedona, Ariz. 86336. John F. Ward.

2491 (D-14) Antonio Karam, Box 758, McAllen, Tex. 78501. Mexican and U.S. Coins. Miriam Gilmore.

2492 (D-5) Elton McGuyer, 13 W. Houston, Paris, Tex. 75460. General. Col. C. A. Wingo.

2493 (D-6) Mark Smith, 3601 Allen Pkwy., Houston, Tex. 77019. U. S. and Mexico Gold Coins. Charlotte A. Nichols.

2494 (D-4) Charles A. Marable, 3500 Greystone Dr. #114, Austin, Tex. 78731. Type Coins and cents. Philip Mohra.

J-2495 (D-2) Kevin Englet, 615 W Cuthbert, Midland, Tex 79701. U.S. Coins. Andrea Peppard

J-2496 (D-2) Miss Connie Neithercutt, 2767 E. 11th St., Odessa, Tex. 79761 General. Andrea Peppard.

J-2497 (D-2) Miss Terri Neithercutt, 2767 E. 11th St., Odessa, Tex. 79761. U.S. Coins. Andrea Peppard

J-2498 (D-2) James Mims, 4300 Redbud, Odessa, Tex 79762. U.S. Coins. Andrea Peppard.

J-2499 (D-2) Howard McMillan, Jr., 1310 Douglas, Odessa, Tex. 79762. U.S. Coins. Andrea Peppard

J-2500 (D-2) Miss Donna Salyards, 3111 Windsor, Odessa, Tex. 79762. General. Andrea Peppard.

RESIGNATIONS

543 (D-4) Miss Jane Hill, Box 3477, Temple, Tex. 76501.

2302 (D-4) Cecil Biggs, Box 722, Temple, Tex. 76501.

DECEASED

2058 (D-3) Morris A. Isabel, 2220 Stanton, San Angelo, Tex. 76064.

The Chinese were the first people to use money and their early coins rank among the most odd and curious pieces ever issued such as "bell" or "spade" money. These interesting and historical coins are becoming increasingly difficult to obtain.

from the treasurer

Texas Numismatic Association

Stanford M. Kennady

2901 Silverleaf Dr., Austin, Texas 78757

Balance on hand as of January 31, 1973		$4,362.68
RECEIPTS:		
TNA News Ads	123.00	
TNA Dues	453.00	
TNA News in Miniature	120.00	
Sale of '73 Medals	352.00	
Re-deposit of returned checks	12.00	
DISBURSEMENTS:		
Banner Printing Co. - Envelopes and printing	54.65	
Banner Printing Co. Jan. News - 987 copies	303.50	$395.61
Postage	81.78	
Engraving	10.33	
TNA News Editor - February travel allowance & petty cash	89.56	
Lyman C. Bartee - President's travel expenses	300.00	
TNA Secretary - miscellaneous expenses	68.33	
Less returned ad check	12.00	
Less returned dues check	4.00	
General Telephone Co. - Editor's phone calls re: convention & TNA News	36.50	960.65
		$4,462.03

Balance on hand as of February 28, 1973	$4,462.03
Operating Funds	$4,388.28
Ear-marked Funds	73.75

NOTE: The following funds cannot be used for anything except the purposes for which they are ear-marked. The above balance includes these funds except as noted below.

TNA Library Fund as of Jan. 31, 1973	73.75
No receipts - no disbursements	-0-
Balance as of Feb. 28, 1973	73.75
TNA News Continuance Fund Certificate of Deposit	$2,000.00

(This amount is not shown in the balance above.)

"SHORT SNORTERS"

"Short Snorters" originated during World War II. They were bank notes—often foreign currencies—or other documents signed by military personnel, newsmen and pilots as souvenirs of the far-off places they visited.

One such item was auctioned for $1,700 in New York by Hamilton Galleries. The bill was an obsolete Russian one-chervonetz, worth about $1 in its day, and was in the estate of the late Merriman Smith, long-time White House reporter for UPI. The signatures included those of Franklin D. Roosevelt, Harry Truman Dwight D. Eisenhower, Winston Churchill, Nikita S. Khrushchev and others.

from the librarian

T.N.A. Memorial Library

Wally Gilmore

Box 74, Weslaco, Texas 78596

We have a new acquisition to the library on the medals of Mexico and the way it was acquired is a little story of its own.

In February, we attended a special meeting of the Texas Chapter of the Maximilian Numismatic & Historical Society held in McAllen at the John Judd home. About 50 members and guests were present. Several attendance prizes were awarded during the afternoon and one of them was a copy of "Medals of Mexico, Vol. II, 1821-1971" by Frank W. Grove, which was donated by Almanzar's Coins of the World of San Antonio, who was unable to attend the meeting. The winning number went to Don Bailey of Yuma, Ariz., executive director of the national society, who was a special guest. As Don already had a copy of the new book, he kindly donated it to the TNA MEMORIAL LIBRARY.

So, it now rests with the other books and material in your library and if you want to order it for some research—it has been pegged #G-10. No cost to you, just the postage.

A chain cent is one of the designs of the early cents of 1793, the chain forming the central design of the reverse. It was supposed to represent the "togetherness" of the colonies, but there was an objection that it represented the "chains of bondage." A wreath replaced it later in 1793 and became an intricate part of coin design thereafter.

✧ ✧ ✧

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EVENTS CALENDAR

APRIL 7-8

HUNT COUNTY COIN CLUB, annual show, Hotel Cadillac, Greenville. Contact: Audra Lamm, 1212 Commerce Dr., Greenville 75401.

✧

APRIL 14-15

LUFKIN & NACOGDOCHES COIN CLUBS, Coin show, Grand Ballroom, Angelina Hotel, Lufkin. Bourse: Carroll Carpenter, Box 621, Lufkin 75901.

✧

APRIL 14-21

NATIONAL COIN WEEK — TAKE PART IN THE CELEBRATION!

✧

MAY 5-6

VICTORIA NUMISMATIC CLUB, 12th annual show, Holiday Inn. Bourse: Graves L. Rouse, 428 First Victoria National Bank Bldg., Victoria 77901.

✧

MAY 12-13

LOUISIANA NUMISMATIC ASSN., convention, Civic Center, Lake Charles, La. Bourse: Larry Shaffner, Box 728, Westlake, La. 70669.

✧

JUNE 29-JULY 1

RETAIL COIN DEALERS ASSN., INC., annual convention. Detroit Hilton Hotel, Detroit, Mich. Chrmn.: Ray O. Lefman, 412 S. Van Brundt Blvd., Kansas City, Mo. 64124

✧

AUGUST 23-27

AMERICAN NUMISMATIC ASSN., annual convention. Sheraton-Boston Hotel, Boston, Mass.

AUGUST 25-26

NOLAN COUNTY COIN CLUB, Wildcat Show, Sweetwater. Bourse: Mabel Cunningham, Box 777, Sweetwater 79556.

✧

SEPTEMBER 8-9

SAN ANGELO COIN CLUB, annual show, Town House Motor Hotel. WRITE: Club, Box 87, San Angelo 76901.

✧

SEPTEMBER 15-16

BEAUMONT COIN CLUB, 14th annual show, Red Carpet Inn. BOURSE: Carl Heartfield, 5030 Stardust, Beaumont 77706.

✧

SEPTEMBER 22-23

AUSTIN COIN CLUB, annual "Money Mart," Stephen F. Austin Hotel. Write Club, Box 1225, Austin 78767.

✧

SEPTEMBER 23

PORT ISABEL & BROWNSVILLE COIN CLUBS, annual show, Chuck Wagon Inn, Port Isabel. Bourse address later.

✧

OCTOBER 6-7

FORT WORTH COIN CLUB, annual show, Western Hills Inn, Fort Worth Metroplex. Bourse: Winston Jobe, 2833 Putnam, Fort Worth 76112.

MINT DEFICIT

The Royal Mint reported recently that it went $72.8 million in the red last year buying up old money. Since the decimal coinage was introduced two years ago, the mint has been forced to buy up old shillings and pence at face value and replace them with new decimal coins. This made up most of the mint's deficit.

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TEXAS DISTRICT MEETINGS

DISTRICT ONE:

The **Fort Worth Coin Club** will host their annual coin show on October 6-7 at the Western Hills Inn, Fort Worth Metroplex. For more information and table reservations contact Winston Jobe, 2833 Putnam, Fort Worth 76112. — **Col. Raymond Darrah, Gov. Dist. 1.**

R. W. Darrah
Governor

✧

The **Graham Stamp and Coin Club** met in the TESCO Reddy Room recently for the regular session and following the business meeting, the program was turned over to G. S. Davidson who showed coins presented to him on attendance of the **Mineral Wells Coin Club** installation of 1973 officers.

Attention was called to the new number system on the stamps which was of interest to stamp collectors; also the many facets of stamp collecting such as bird series, animals and many others.

Of interest to the coin collector was the question posed as to where were the 1964 Peace dollars authorized by the late Lyndon B. Johnson in May, 1965. There were 100,000 ordered minted.—**Mrs. Hellen Rust, Reporter.**

✧

Plans were finalized for the hobby show sponsored by the **Mineral Wells Coin Club** at the February meeting. The show was to be held March 17-18 at the National Guard Armory.

A new gavel was presented to George Kesterson, new president. Willis Brooks made the gavel and also the presentation at the meet-

✧ ✧ ✧

CLUB DIRECTORY

MEETING EVERY TUESDAY!

In the Corpus Christi area, there is a coin club meeting every Tuesday night with Corpus Christi and Liberty Coin Clubs meeting alternate Tuesdays, Wilson Tower, Exxon Conference Room, 10th Floor.

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ing.

During another of the meetings, a White Elephant sale and a coin auction was held with Dennis Rabideau as auctioneer.—**Mrs. Hellen Rust, Reporter.**

✧

DISTRICT THREE:

Buz Sawyer
Governor

Sweetwater's **Nolan County Coin Club** will have their 1973 Wildcat Show August 25-26. Featured will be coins, stamps, guns, rocks, barbed wire, artifacts, antiques and other items. For table reservations write Mabel Cunningham, Box 777, Sweetwater 79556.

Plans were made to hold drawings for a gold piece to be given at the annual Christmas party and also to have a 30-minute meeting for the junior members

Juanita Monroe conducted a quiz with winners receiving coins as prizes for the correct answers.

Eighteen attended the meeting at the Texas Bank.—**David Williams, Sec.**

✧

DISTRICT FOUR:

Ray Kirkpatrick
Governor

New officers took over their duties at the February meeting of the **Austin Coin Club.** The January meeting had been cancelled due to bad weather.

Committees were appointed along with the TNA and ANA club representatives Plans were made for the annual "Coin Week" show and the date was set for April 7 due to Palm Sunday and Easter Sunday falling on the two Sundays of National Coin Week.—**Lyman Bartee, Sec.**

✧

The **Waco Coin Club** voted to increase the annual dues from $2 to $3 and created a category for juniors who will have to be under the age of 18. A discussion was held concerning the club's participation in National Coin Week with public ex-

CEN-TEX MEDAL — Fifth annual medal issued by Central Texas Coin Club of Brownwood shows the city's Santa Fe depot on the reverse. The depot has been a landmark in Brownwood since it was erected in 1909, but is scheduled to be torn down within two or three years. The obverse remains the same each year, showing a map of Texas and the club name. The medals are issued in sterling silver and polished bronze, priced at $7.50 for the silver and $1 for the bronze. Club address for ordering medals is Box 759, Brownwood, Tex. 76801.

hibits.

There was no program, but plans were made for future programs and include the viewing of the General Services Administration film "900 Fine" as soon as it is available.

Members hold their meetings at Texas Power & Light Service Center.—**J. P. Jones, Sec.**

✧

DISTRICT FIVE:

Bob Hewgley
Governor

Twenty-seven attended the February meeting of the **Dallas Coin Club** held in the Roman Room at the Baker Hotel.

Tom Ratliff, General Services Administration, spoke briefly about the Carson City dollar sale, primarily as an introduction to the film entitled "History of the Carson City Mint." The film portrays much history for the collector.—**LCdr. C. C. Andrews, Sec.**

✧

Numismatics International of Dallas is planning a numismatic tour to Russia departing from New York on May 31 for a 21-day trip. The tour is under the auspices of the Citizen Exchange Corps. Anyone interested may write Irving Berlin, Box 30013, Dallas 75230.—**Dolores H. Davis, Publicity.**

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DISTRICT SIX:

Over 3,000 attended the February 2-4 15th annual Money Show hosted by the **Greater Houston Coin Club** at the Rice Hotel. Dealers from all over the United States and Canada were present. Robert Astrich was general chairman assisted by John Herbert. Mrs. Charlotte Nichols was in charge of exhibits.

Best in show was won by R. H. Scheweers and he received the A. J. Mitula award for his exhibit of coins before 1500. Schweers also won first place in the same category with David Cervin placing second.

Other winners were: coins after 1500, Charles Brundle, Chris Jasso; United States coins, Stuart Bamberger, John Murphy; medals and tokens, Mrs. Chester Francis; miscellaneous, Donna Johnson; and junior, Colin Tuttle.

On special display were the three coins considered the world's most valuable in existence—1804 silver dollar, 1913 Liberty Head nickel and 1894S dime.

Club officers include Chris Jasso, president, C. C. Hutchinson, vice president; William D. Johnson, treasurer; and A. J. Lanier, secretary.

✧

Members of **Galveston County Coin Club** of Texas City met on February 27 for the regular session with a program of "other hobbies." Talks wer

MITULA AWARD—The Greater Houston Coin Club has established a permanent exhibit award in honor of the late A. J. Mitula, a charter member of the club and a nationally known coin and stamp dealer. The first award went to R. H. Schweers, left, for best in show and was presented by W. J. Bingham, son-in-law of the late Mr. Mitula.

given by Claude Ressler, Christine Richardson, Charles Stepps, Carl Nessler Jr., Carolyn Stepps and Ruby Threlkeld. Subjects covered medals, vegetable gardening, knitting, U.S. coins, elongated cents and others.

The find of the week was reported by Claude Ressler. It was a 1945P wartime nickel in AU condition. A. A. Graf displayed his CC dollar from the mint which was reported to be a nice coin except for bag marks.—**Ruby Threlkeld, Reporter.**

✧

La Marque Coin Club members enjoyed a White Elephant Sale at the February 1 meeting with proceeds from 25 lots going to the club treasury.

At the February 15 meeting, a covered dish supper was held. Hugh

Charlotte Nichols
Governor

SHOW WINNERS—Receiving exhibit awards at the recent Levelland Coin Club show were David Joplin for a display containing the United States 1921D silver dollar; Jerry Eastham for a display of 20 coins; and Bryan Estham who displayed emergency United States paper money. The Spring show was held at Levelland High School cafeteria.

Threlkeld reported on the recent Houston club show held at the Rice Hotel and noted that it was nice to visit with TNA and ANA officials.

It was reported that Mrs. Charles Lehmann, traveling member, is still touring Texas; and that A. A. Graf was in the hospital. Special awards were given to Ruby and Hugh Threlkeld and Opal Akey.—**Ruby Threlkeld, Sec.**

✧

DISTRICT EIGHT:

The 12th annual coin show sponsored by the **Victoria Numismatic Club** has been set for May 5-6 at the Holiday Inn.

Graves L. Rouse is bourse chairman and may be reached at 428 First Victoria National Bank Bldg., Victoria 77901.

Helen Floerke
Governor

✧

Wisconsin members Virgil and Daisy Jackson of Beaver Dam, Wisc. were present for a recent meeting of the **Liberty Coin Club** of Corpus Christi. Games were conducted with each member donating a numismatic prize.

✧

DISTRICT NINE:

Only four members attended the February meeting of **Levelland Coin Club** but plans were completed anyway for the March 4 coin show. The show was held in the Levelland High School cafeteria with approximately 150 at-

D. O. Joplin
Governor

tending the one-day event

Exhibit winners were David Joplin, Jerry Eastham and Bryan Estham. Special awards went to Robbie Bass, John Prothro and C. L. Chamberlain. Dealers were counted from Texas, New Mexico and Oklahoma —**D. O. Joplin, Gov., Dist. 9.**

✧

Jim Hall reported on plans for the March 24-25 **South Plains Coin Club** show at the First National Bank in Lubbock at the recent meeting held by the club at First Federal Savings & Loan. Twenty-eight attended the session —**Mrs. H. K. Garrett, Sec.**

✧

D. O. Joplin and Joe Markham presented a showing of slide set #3A to members of the **Lamb County Coin Club** of Littlefield held in February at the Reddy Room. Twenty were present.

Markham and Mrs. A. S. Clark took over the business duties for the elected officers who were absent — **D. O. Joplin, Gov. Dist. 9.**

✧

DISTRICT ELEVEN:

Ernest Cummings
Governor

At the February meeting of the **Amarillo Coin Club**, it was voted to have the Spring coin show some time in May. More information will be available later.

Lloyd Colvin gave a program on "Early American Exchange." He stressed that the Indians did not coinage their money equivalent solely to "Wampum" (beads) but they had many other standards for barter. His talk was concluded with Indian dances by three members of

✧ ✧ ✧

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the nationally known Kwahadi Indians. In appreciation, the club presented them a Two Gray Hills tapestry for the Kwahadi Museum which they are now building —**D. R. Cervin, TNA Rep.**

✧

DISTRICT TWELVE:

John Ward
Governor

The **Lufkin** and **Nacogdoches Coin Clubs** are banding together to sponsor a coin show April 14-15 in the Grand Ballroom of the Angelina Hotel in Lufkin.

Carroll Carpenter is directing the bourse and dealers who are interested may send for information at Box 621, Lufkin 76901 —**R. E. Crandall, Pres., Lufkin Coin Club.**

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DISTRICT THIRTEEN:

W. C. Williams
Governor

Barry Donnell was speaker for the evening at the February meeting of the **Wichita Falls Coin & Stamp Club** held in Memorial Hall at the YMCA. Donnell told how to detect fake and altered coins. He displayed a stereo-microscope geared to detect fake coins and alterations and explained the operation.

Rev. E. S. Poore, club president, reported on a recent philatelic seminar held in Dallas at SMU.

Refreshments were served to 49 members and guests. —**Mrs. G. M. Howard, Publicity.**

DISTRICT FOURTEEN:

John L. Chisum
Governor

September 23 is the date for the annual **Port Isabel Coin Club** show and this year the **Brownsville Coin Club** will join in the activities. The show will be held at the Chuck Wagon Inn with Robert C. Dedmon, Mrs. Grisham and Don Pruitt named to the working committee.

At the February meeting, with 17 present, different types of coin collections were discussed, among them being "Topical Collecting." Ada Lee Chisum showed a collection of land mass coins from the January issue of the TNA NEWS, and suggested that each member bring a coin with a land mass on it to the next meeting.

John Chisum read an article on "What is Money?" in which it was brought out that each person today has an average of $300 in his pocket, whereas four years ago the average for each person was $177. — **Oneta Grisham, Reporter.**

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Thirty seven attended the February 5 meeting of the **Harlingen Coin Club** and welcomed three new members — Mr. and Mrs. Fred Brooks and James Noel.

Meetings are held the first and third Mondays at the First National Bank —**Oneta Grisham, Sec.**

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Robert C. Dedmon reported on plans for the joint coin show to be sponsored by the **Port Isabel Coin Club** and the **Brownsville Coin Club** on September 23 at the Chuck Wagon Inn. It was voted to give a money clock, a 20th century U.S. type set and a proof Eisenhower dollar as prizes at the

show

John Chisum, program chairman, asked for future programs and volunteers were Dedmon, Mr. Fox, Oneta Grisham and Don Pruitt.

Brother Robert Byrne, Bill Jenkins, Bolivar Rubiano and Kyle Burson, all from St. Joseph's Academy in Brownsville, presented a slide set showing on United States Paper Money 1861-1923, illustrated by $5 notes. The set was furnished by the TNA Memorial Library. —Oneta Grisham, Pres.

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Members of the Hidalgo Coin Club nominated Texas Ranger Jack Dean for the "Golden Bullet" award to be presented at the 1973 TNA convention by Fred Brooks as the officer doing the most for the protection of collectors and dealers. Ranger Dean has made continous efforts to apprehend persons responsible for robberies.

Miriam Gilmore was asked to represent the club at the TNA convention as John Chisum, District 14 governor and club representative, would not be able to attend.

Persons listed for future programs include L. G. Davenport, Miriam Gil-

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more and Virginia Armstrong. — **Miriam Gilmore, Reporter.**

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At the **South Texas Error Club** meeting at Chisum's Rock Shop in Pharr, it was announced that the club would be three years old in April and new officers would be elected

L. G. Davenport discussed a new exhibit which he was assembling and will consist of clipped planchets He also showed photos of the clipped pieces.

It was announced that the annual Error-A-Rama will be held in Hollywood, Calif. on July 21-22 at the Sportsman Lodge Buddy Robbins was awarded the attendance prize — a roll of Lincoln cent errors donated by Davenport. —**Miriam Gilmore, Visiting Sec.**

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DISTRICT FIFTEEN:

Jerry Williams, 1973 **Beaumont Coin Club** show chairman, reported at the February meeting that plans had been made with The Franklin Mint to have an exhibit at the September 15-16 show Victor Butts was appointed to the exhibit committee.

The March meeting was to include a documentary film tracing the history of the Carson City silver dollars with Jess Bachelder in charge

Meetings are held on the fifth floor of the First Security National Bank. —**Shirley Williams, Reporter.**

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Jerry Williams
Governor

Several topics were discussed at the February meeting of the **Port Arthur Coin Club**, mainly, approval of the new club bulletin, dues reminders for the club, T N A and ANA, and plans for the March 10-11 coin show.

Plans were also made to celebrate

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P.O. Box 536 Denison, Texas 75020

National Coin Week and Richard Krummel was appointed to head the committee.

Victor Butts spoke to the group on how to exhibit and had an example on display. Gary Gerald gave some numismatic facts concerning the Buffalo nickel. —**Shirley Williams, Reporter.**

WHEN & WHERE?

Traveling numismatists are sometimes seeking coin clubs to visit and the TNA News is endeavoring to supply such information. If your club welcomes visitors—let us know when and where your meetings are held. A new listing will be given each month. Send us the information—this is a service to your club and your members.

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MINERAL WELLS COIN CLUB
1st and 3rd Thursdays.
Crazy Water Hotel.

✧

SAN ANGELO COIN CLUB
1st Thursday, Town House Motor Hotel.

✧

HIDALGO COIN CLUB,
1st Thursday, Chisum's Rock Shop, Pharr.

✧

PORT ISABEL COIN CLUB,
2nd Sunday, 1:30 p.m. Chuck Wagon Restaurant.

✧

WILLACY COUNTY COIN CLUB,
3rd Wednesday, Dew Drop Inn, Lyford.

✧

BEAUMONT COIN CLUB
3rd Thursday, First Security National Bank, 5th floor.

✧

FREDONIA COIN CLUB,
2nd Tuesday, Fredonia State Bank, Nacogdoches.

UNCOMFORTABLE CHAIR —
(Continued from page 25)

and generate interest in the local coin club.

5. **Particular actions employed to encourage junior membership locally and statewide.**

These will stand as added clues to writing up your club's summary for the 1973 contest.

✧

Two favorites shared

"West Texas is the only place in the world where you can stand waist-deep in mud, with snow falling on your head, and sand blowing in your face!"

✧

"I see a great deal of talk from Washington about lowering the taxes. I hope they get 'em lowered down enough so people can afford to pay them!" — Will Rogers.

AMARILLO COIN CLUB
3rd Wednesday, Southwestern Public Service Co. Hospitality Room.

✧

GATEWAY COIN CLUB
1st and 3rd Tuesdays, Mitchell Hall, Lackland AFB, San Antonio.

✧

CORPUS CHRISTI COIN CLUB
Every Other Tuesday, Wilson Tower, Exxon Conference Room.

✧

GREATER HOUSTON COIN CLUB, INC. 3rd Friday, 3838 Westheimer, Southwestern Savings Bldg.

✧

LEVELLAND COIN & STAMP CLUB,
3rd Tuesday, Chamber of Commerce Building.

✧

ODESSA COIN CLUB, 2nd and 4th Thursday, Permian Bank & Trust or alternate Odessa College.

✧

DALLAS COIN CLUB, 3rd Thursday, Baker Hotel

Coinage Of Gr. Britian Found In New Book

"Money in Great Britian and Ireland" by C. R. Josset and published in Great Britian is a new release on the coins and notes of the British Isles.

The hard-back edition covers the coins and notes of the British Isles from the iron rings and bars of Caesar's time to the latest coins of Elizabeth II's reign. If you are interested in the difference between a groat and testoon, a guinea and a 'broad', or a Treasury and a Bank of England note, you will find the answers in this book. Some of the topics discussed are British tribal money, early mints and minting (73 in all), wood tally system, Maundy money, early banknotes, siege pieces, banking, on to the new decimal coinage, the Channel Isles and the Isle of Man. Coinage under each ruler is thoroughly discussed along with illustrations.

This new book is a must for the collector of British coins and may be ordered from Charles E. Tuttle Co., Rutland, Vermont 05701 for $12.50.

CONTINENTALS

The first type of paper money used in the United States—issued by the Congress of the United Colonies in North America from 1775 to 1789—was called Continental Currency. These notes are truly historical items that were in circulation at the time of George Washington and Benjamin Franklin when the colonies were struggling to gain their independence. The Latin mottoes printed on the notes were intended to give solace and encouragement to the suffering colonists during these trying times.

New Book Issued

The second edition of "The Coinage of the Dominican Republic" by Alcedo Almanzar and Jerome Remick is now available for the collectors of this special coinage.

The new edition reflects extensive research about the early issues and the most accurate appraisal of all modern coins (1848 date) in six grades. All types are illustrated, dates priced, varieties are discussed and patterns are evaluated.

The book may be ordered from Almanzar, Suite D, Milam Building, San Antonio 78205. Price is $2.50 postpaid.

New Panama Book Issued

One of the most complete studies of the coins of Panama ever published "Coins & Currency of Panama" by Capt. Julius Grigore Jr. has made its appearance on the coin book market. The new publication was released by Krause Publications, Inc. of Iola, Wis.

The author, a long time collector of Panamanian coins, fully details the numerous coin types and varieties encountered in this series. Most of the country's coins have been struck at United States mints, while the currency of trade has been U.S. paper money from the beginning, although one rare, aborted distinctive Panamanian currency issue was introduced in 1941.

The new book, priced at $6.50, details both the history of the coin issues from 1904 to present and gives the historical background against which they were issued. It is a 292 page, liberally illustrated reference.

Brazilians call a bounced check a cheque frio (cold check).

Trade Dollar

It is said that until the middle of the 19th century, more than half of the world's silver was produced in Mexico. During this time she had the ability to mint and export millions of dollars' worth of the precious metal every year. Because the coins were almost pure silver, they were accepted around the world and actually used as legal tender in China and other parts of the Far East. The discovery of large silver deposits in the Western part of the U.S. toward the middle of the century prompted congressmen to exert pressure for legislation authorizing the striking of trade dollars. The bill was passed on February 12, 1873. While the standard dollar was 412½ grains, 900/1000 pure. This fact was placed prominently on the coin. The lawmakers had erred, though, since while the Mexican dollar that it was trying to compete with had only 418 grains, it was over 97/100 pure. Rightly the Chinese merchants preferred the Mexican dollar to the U.S. trade dollar.

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NEW BOOK

A new book "Numismatic Listing of Modern and Mediaeval Countries" has been written and released by Lee Grossman. It contains 66 pages, many illustrations and covers all countries which have ever issued coins. It will be of use to both the numismatist and historian, and of the most use to the collector who is attempting to complete a collection of one coin from every country.

The new edition may be ordered at $1.50 from Almanzar's Coins of the World, Suite D, Milam Bldg., San Antonio 78205.

When Was the Last Time You Asked a Friend or Acquaintance To Join TNA?

PLEASE NOTE

DO NOT send articles, club news or advertising to the TNA secretary or Banner Printing Co. Direct all through the TNA News editor.

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DO NOT send changes of address, dues payments or membership applications to the TNA News editor or Banner Printing Co. Direct all through the TNA secretary.

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4. Publisher reserves the right to revise copy to fit the space requested.

5. Error adjustment restricted to one free insertion.

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